

Project Summary Sheet

Project Name: Parkville Ranch Conservation Easement

Tracking No: 200784106

Location: 5810 Parkville Road, Anderson, CA 96007

County: Shasta

Project Sponsor: Western Shasta Resource Conservation District

Point of Contact: Mary Mitchell, District Manager, WSRCD; (530) 365-7332 x 202

Co-applicant(s): None

Assembly District: #2 Doug La Malfa

Senate District: #4 Samuel Aanestad

Project Summary: This project will fund the purchase of a conservation easement on the 270.75-acre Parkville Ranch and establish an endowment fund for maintenance and monitoring in perpetuity. The ranch currently and historically has been used for agriculture although the eastern section along Bear Creek floods annually, with major flooding approximately every ten years. Major flooding closes Parkville Road and threatens the Parkville Road bridge structure. The Parkville Ranch lies between Bear Creek and Dry Creek in Shasta County, east of the City of Anderson and southeast of the City of Redding. The ranch also borders the 2,248-acre organic Fenwood Ranch, which has 2.5 miles of Sacramento River frontage and is already under a conservation easement. Protecting the Parkville Ranch from development through an easement protects the floodplain from development and prevents construction of additional impervious structures and roads that would contribute to even more severe flooding, protects important wildlife corridors, oak woodlands, and the rich loam soil (Prime Agriculture Land).

Flood Benefits: This project prevents construction of additional impervious structures and roads that would contribute to even more severe flooding of Parkville Road and its bridge. The percent of protected/improved land in the FEMA 100-yr floodplain is twelve percent. Other benefits i.e. transitory storage of water and sediment, groundwater recharge, would occur only in Phase two.

Agricultural Benefits: The conservation easement will preserve the historic agriculture use of the ranch. The ranch owner has leased 100 acres of Prime Agriculture Land to a local farmer who raises hay. This lease will continue to be honored in the conservation easement, therefore keeping the property as a working ranch and preserving the agricultural values of the land. This project will prevent probable loss of current agricultural use of terrace (row crops) to development and thus loss of prime agricultural soils.

Agricultural Land Conserved: 150 acres

Wildlife Benefits: Phase one: prevent loss of potential terrace habitat to development. This also prevents decline of salmonid Shaded Riverine Aquatic (SRA) habitat on terrace/Bear Ck edge due to prevention of more severe future flooding; Phase two: increase riparian vegetation (and SRA) if it is possible to lay back the banks and connect floodplain with creek. The banks of the Bear Creek within the project reach are deeply downcut.

Wildlife Habitat Conserved: Conservation is based on floodplain reconnection, which would occur in Phase two only, from lowering the Bear Creek banks. This would require removal of all existing riparian vegetation now lining the edge of terrace.

Total area conserved: 270.75 acres

Other Benefits: Five acres will be donated to fund Chrysalis Charter School, a school focused on outdoor education, natural resources, and agriculture. The school intends to construct facilities for approximately 100 students at that site and use the Parkville Ranch for outdoor and agriculture education purposes.

Total Cost: \$574,641

FPCP Cost: \$538,000

Funding Partners and Share of Cost: Local Funds contributed is \$6,000 and in-kind funds of \$30,641.